

The School Board Corner

By Karen Zink, Hartwood District

January 2004

Welcome back and Happy New Year! It is hard to believe that another year has come to a close. As Stafford County continues to grow at a steady, rapid pace, let's look back at some statistics:

	1984	1994	2004
Number of Schools	12	18	24 (plus 1 to open Sept '04)
Student Enrollment	10,261	15,459	24,606
Projected Enrollment			26,553*

* As in CIP. This figure changes slightly as more information becomes available.

Over the past 20 years, our student population and number of schools has more than doubled and continues to steadily grow. It is our goal to challenge each student to reach his or her potential and to prepare each student to succeed in society.

As you are already aware, we had four school board seats that were up for election. Patricia Healy (Rockhill), Ed Sullivan (George Washington), and Bob Hunt (Aquia), will all be returning to their seats. The new name and face that you will begin to see is that of Dana Reinboldt who will serve the Griffis-Widewater District. Dana is married and has 3 children. She has lived in Stafford County for 16 years. She has been an active volunteer in Stafford County Schools for the past 11 years, including serving on the Special Education Advisory Committee. Dana was the co-founder of the Widewater 4-H Club and served as a 4-H Leader for over 4 years. She is currently the President of the Aquia Harbour Dolphins Swim Team. Dana is very enthusiastic and excited to be a part of our school board and we all look forward to working with her.

We are in the beginning phase of planning our budget for FY 2005. If there is something you feel should be included in the budget, feel free to express your comments to the Stafford County School Board, or e-mail your comments to vcottongim@staffordschools.net.

I hope everyone has a prosperous 2004. If you have not made those New Year's Resolutions yet consider volunteering a couple of hours or so to your child's school if your schedule permits. Studies have proven that children succeed better in school when there is parental involvement.

January Word of the Month: *COURAGE-- The quality of mind or spirit that enables a person to face difficulty, danger, pain, etc., without fear, bravery.*

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